



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

February 2015

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

Gifts of Love

Valentine's Day might be over, but you can still show that special person (or people) in your life how much you care with a gift of preparedness. Check out the Infographic (at right) for more details, and watch this quick video (below) from the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management for gift ideas.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFLQoXn-HTM>

Portable Energy Mill Provides Both Wind and Solar Power at Disaster Sites

After large scale disasters such as hurricanes or floods, affected areas are often left without power, making it much harder for emergency services to find and help survivors. Delays of minutes or hours can often mean the difference between life and death. We have already seen the Ambulance Drone – an all-purpose medical toolkit that can be flown into emergency situations, and now WindStream Technologies has developed the MobileMill – a portable trailer which harvests both solar and wind power, designed for first responders at disaster sites where other power sources have been knocked out.

<http://www.springwise.com/portable-energy-mill-wind-solar-power-disaster-sites/>

Surry Power Station Exercise Tests Security Procedures

Dominion Virginia Power and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management held a full-scale exercise Feb. 10 at the Surry Power Station to test preparedness and response procedures involving plant security. The annual exercise involved Dominion Virginia Power personnel and more than two dozen local, state and federal agencies. In response to the heightened security environment since Sept. 11, 2001, the nuclear industry along with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission developed guidelines that address the challenges of security events that could potentially occur at U.S. nuclear power stations. The exercise tested the ability of the station and state and local governments to respond to a security event at the station. The exercise involved localities within the emergency planning zone of the power station, including the cities of Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson and Williamsburg, and the counties of Charles City, Isle of Wight, James City, New Kent, Surry and York. Other participating organizations included the Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Coast Guard, local fire and rescue squads, and other local emergency responders. Participating

agencies role-played their emergency response functions from state and local government emergency operations centers and the power station. “These drills are held every other year to evaluate government’s ability to protect public health and safety,” said MaryAnn Tierney, regional administrator for FEMA Region III. “We assess state and local emergency response capabilities within the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone as well as the adjacent support jurisdictions within the Commonwealth of Virginia.” Within 90 days, FEMA will send its evaluation to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for use in licensing decisions. The final report will be available to the public about 120 days after the exercise.

Fireplace Safety Tips

- Ensure that your chimney is cleaned and inspected by a licensed professional once a year.
- A spark arrestor across the top of a chimney will prevent sparks from igniting your roof.
- Use the proper fuel (seasoned hardwood, pellets, and gas/propane) for your type of system. Never use gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Fireplaces should have a sturdy screen across the front to prevent embers from flying or logs from rolling out.
- When clearing ashes from the fireplace, be sure to put them into a metal container with a lid—never into a cardboard box or paper bag.
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions carefully. Many “non-masonry” fireplace/chimney units have limitations on the amount of heat they can safely withstand.

Learn more life safety information from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr



Be an Affirmer of the National Strategy for Youth Preparedness

Last year, FEMA announced a new strategy for youth preparedness education nationwide. Since then, 49 organizations with a demonstrated commitment to preparing our nation’s youth for emergencies have affirmed their support for the National Strategy for Youth Preparedness Education: Empowering, Educating and Building Resilience (National Strategy). The national strategy couples attention on emergency and disaster preparedness with community action that focuses specifically on youth readiness for disasters and related events. The national strategy was developed in partnership with the American Red Cross and the U.S. Department of Education. Research shows that it is important to educate and empower young people to prepare for disasters. A 2010 study from Oregon State University showed that 14 percent of children and teens experienced a disaster during their lifetime, and four percent had been in a disaster within the past year. Of those who had experience with disaster, a quarter reported experiencing more than one. Children who are preparedness are less likely to experience anxiety and are more confident during emergencies. Research has also showed that children share important messages with their families and communities, making them a strong ally for preparedness education. The National Strategy presents nine priority steps to further youth preparedness education including: building partnerships to enhance, increase and implement youth preparedness learning programs; connecting young people with their families, communities, first responders and other youth; and increasing school preparedness. More information about these steps -- as well as the national organizations that have affirmed their support -- is available in the FEMA Youth Technical Assistance Center at www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness. More information about emergency preparedness is available at www.ready.gov. If interested in becoming an affirmer, please contact the FEMA Youth Technical Assistance Center at FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov.

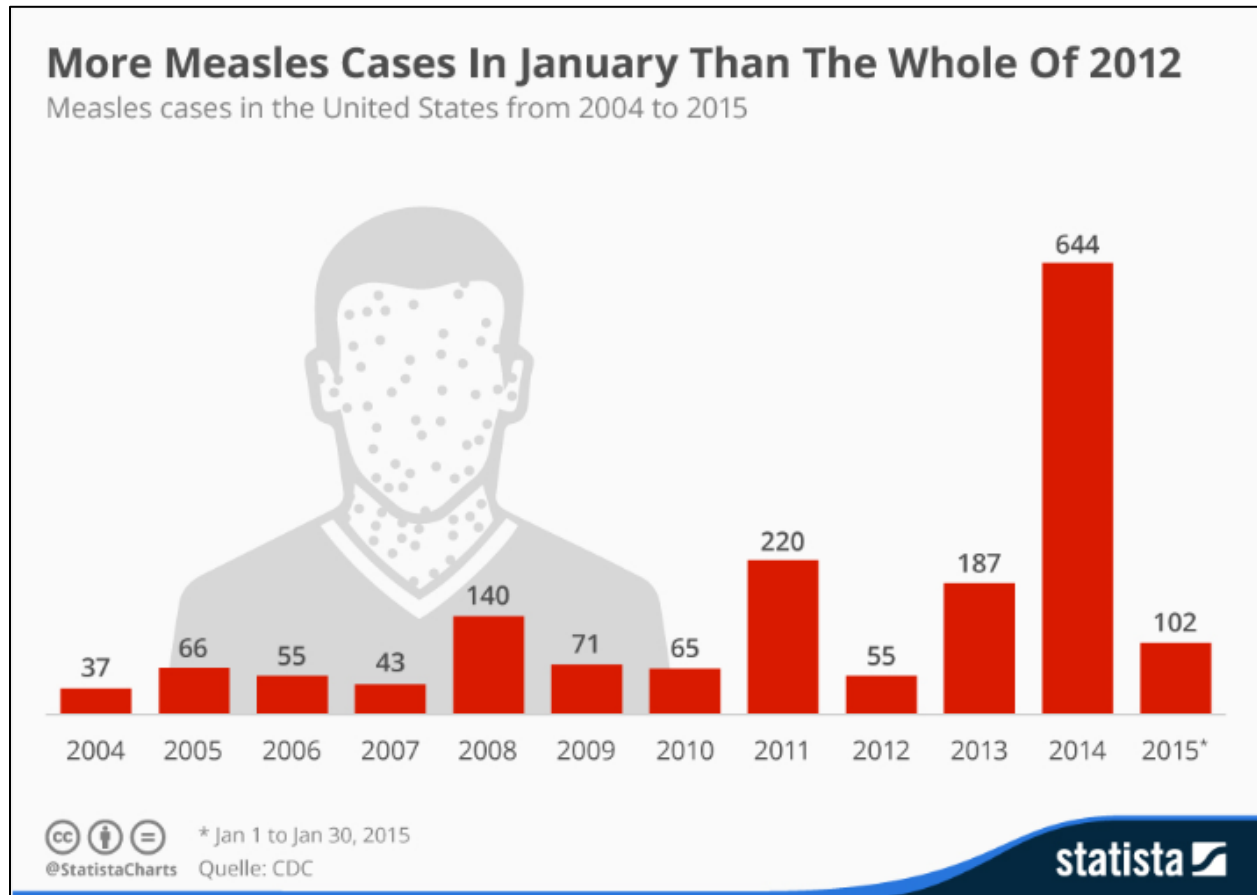


Chart by [Statista](#)

“Large” Measles Outbreak Possible, CDC Says

The measles outbreak is up to 103 reported cases in 14 states as of Jan. 30, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These numbers are expected to rise. Linked to a single outbreak at Disneyland in California, visitors have since taken the disease back to their states where it may spread. While the current case is making national news, 2014 saw the highest number of measles cases in over a decade with over 600 cases, more than three times 2013’s numbers and over 10 times 2012’s numbers. The majority of cases are among unvaccinated people, pushing the question of vaccination exemptions to the forefront of the national dialog. For example, over 18,000 kindergarteners in California have not been vaccinated against measles due to exemptions. Measles is considered one of the most contagious of all infectious diseases. Many of the symptoms of measles include things normally seen this time of year from colds and flu: runny nose, fever, cough, sore throat, sneezing, and red eyes. These are followed by a rash that spreads over the body. Three in 10 will develop complications such as pneumonia and ear infections; some will develop more life-threatening or life-changing complications. An outbreak at a large national tourist venue is a worst-case scenario for disease spread. More information can be found from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>

Reprinted from *The InfoGram e-newsletter* dated Feb. 5, published by the Emergency Management & Response-Information Sharing & Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC). For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at 301-447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.



www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov

George Mason University School of Law Publishes Report on Infrastructure Resilience; Cybersecurity Survey

The January issue of The CIP Report from The Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security (CIP/HS) at George Mason University's School of Law focuses on infrastructure resilience. Articles address the rule of law in resiliency, fatigue in first responders, Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience as a discipline, water supply resilience, and resilience and behavioral science. The report is available on their website at <http://cip.gmu.edu/the-cip-report>. In addition, CIP/HS is involved with a three year research study for the Department of Homeland Security looking at improving the effectiveness of Cybersecurity Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs). If you are a member of a CSIRT team or if you are involved in your organization's cybersecurity management or operations, they encourage you to take this 10-15 minute survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MHVXQTQ>. The data collected in this study will be confidential and no individual or organization can be identified. A summary of the research results will be presented at future cybersecurity conferences and published in a future edition of the CIP Report.

Reprinted from the EM Update e-newsletter, issue #154, dated Feb. 4, 2015 from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management

Federal Flood Risk Management Standard

On Jan. 30, the President issued an Executive Order 13690, "Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input." Prior to implementation of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard, additional input from stakeholders is being solicited and considered on how federal agencies will implement the new Standard. To carry out this process, a draft version of Implementing Guidelines is open for comment until April 6. Floods, the most common natural disaster, damage public health and safety, as well as economic prosperity. They can also threaten national security. Between 1980 and 2013, the United States suffered more than \$260 billion in flood-related damages. With climate change and other threats, flooding risks are expected to increase over time. Sea level rise, storm surge, and heavy downpours, along with extensive development in coastal areas, increase the risk of damage due to flooding. That damage can be particularly severe for infrastructure, including buildings, roads, ports, industrial facilities and even coastal military installations. The new Executive Order amends the existing Executive Order 11988 on Floodplain Management and adopts a higher flood standard for future federal investments in and affecting floodplains, which will be required to meet the level of resilience established in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard. This includes projects where federal funds are used to build new structures and facilities or to rebuild those that have been damaged. These projects make sure that buildings are constructed to withstand the impacts of flooding, improves the resilience of communities, and protects federal investments.

<https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2015/02/05/federal-flood-risk-management-standard>

Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Implementing Sessions

Plan on joining FEMA and federal partners during a series of listening sessions on the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Implementation. These sessions provide the opportunity to listen, ask questions and provide feedback on how federal agencies implement the standard. FEMA, on behalf of the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG), published a draft version of Implementing Guidelines that remains open for comment until April 6, 2015. Various locations have been identified across the nation to solicit feedback on the implementation guidelines. The MitFLG, a collection of federal agencies with programs and authorities designed to mitigate the impacts of disasters on communities, will accept written comments through the Federal Register process from those

unable to attend the public meetings and will also host a virtual listening session in the coming months. An official Federal Register Notice will be published in the near future to officially announce the listening session schedule.

Listening Sessions for FEMA REGION III *(Additional listening sessions to be announced soon)*

March 11; 9 a.m. – noon

Old Dominion University

Ted Constant Convocation Center

4320 Hampton Blvd

Norfolk, VA 23529

Due to space constraints of the facilities, seating may be limited. To reserve a seat in advance, please provide a request via email at least three days in advance with the contact information of the participant (including name, mailing address, and e-mail address), and the meeting to be attended to FEMA-FFRMS@fema.dhs.gov and include the subject/attention line: Reservation Request for FFRMS. For anyone attending the meetings who is hearing or visually impaired, or who requires special assistance or accommodations, also contact FEMA by email at FEMA-FFRMS@fema.dhs.gov.

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Cyber Alert Level Indicator

The Cyber Alert Level Indicator, from the Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center, reflects the current level of threatening cyber activity and potential for damage. The indicator may be set to one of five levels: low, guarded, elevated, high and severe. The system takes into account the target of potential attacks, the likelihood of damage and host and network-based countermeasures

<http://msisac.cisecurity.org/alert-level/>

Winter Road Rules

Driving in winter weather conditions can be hazardous especially in areas that receive a large amount of snow and ice. Unless an emergency has occurred, it's always best to stay off the roads. If you must drive, allow yourself extra time to reach your destination and make sure your vehicle emergency kit contains the following items:

- Road salt.
- Emergency flares.
- An ice scraper.
- A shovel.

While on the road, you should adjust your driving techniques to account for the slippery conditions. Follow these tips to ensure your safety and that of others:

- Leave extra room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you.
- Do not use cruise control.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges, or shady areas.

In addition, it is important to give snow plows extra room. If you find yourself behind a snow plow, slow down and don't crowd the plow! Remember to always pass on the left side. For more winter driving tips, click on the animated snow globe (<http://www.nhtsa.gov/links/WinterDrivingTips/>) on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Web page containing vital information.

Reprinted from FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief, Feb. 4 edition

Home Flood Protection

Floods are the most common disaster in the United States. If you live near a low-lying body of water, along a coast, or downstream from a levee, it's particularly important to be prepared for flooding and to protect your home.

One of the best ways to protect your home is to purchase flood insurance. Purchasing flood insurance provides protection for the cost of repairs due to flood damage. Standard insurance policies do not cover flooding, but flood insurance is available for homeowners, renters, and businesses through the National Flood Insurance Program

(NFIP). Once purchased, it will take 30 days for the policy to go into effect.

In addition to flood insurance, the NFIP lists ways to prepare your home for a flood, including:

- Clear debris from gutters and downspouts.
- Install a water alarm in the basement.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, washer and dryer at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation.
- Move furniture, valuables and important documents to a safe place.

Floods can happen at any time. Taking small steps can make a big difference in reducing the risk of flood damage to your property. As you complete these actions, be sure to register them on the America's PrepareAthon! website.

<https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/>

White House Debuts Dot.Gov Cyber Enforcement Squad

The Obama administration will spend about \$20 million on a new White House cyber unit to oversee dot-gov network security, including, for the first time, making sure agencies notify victims of breaches according to a specific timetable. The "E-gov Cyber" division, housed within the Office of Management and Budget, is aimed at making clear OMB's role in governmentwide cybersecurity: policymaking and enforcement. The newly enacted 2014 Federal Information Security Modernization Act formally tasks the Department of Homeland Security with operational aspects of guarding the dot-gov network, and cements OMB's strategic role.

<http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2015/02/white-house-debuts-dot-gov-cyber-enforcement-squad/104313/>

Nine Common Security Awareness Mistakes (and how to fix them)

Every recent study of security vulnerabilities has come to the same conclusion: The human factor is a greater risk to organizations than flaws in technology. And that, most experts agree, is in large measure due to a lack of security awareness – people are either unaware of increasingly sophisticated threats, or they get careless. There is, of course, no such thing as 100 percent security. But it could be a lot better if workers at every level, in every organization, avoided the common security awareness mistakes.

<http://www.csoonline.com/article/2877259/security-awareness/nine-common-security-awareness-mistakes-and-how-to-fix-them.html>

How Much Could a DDoS Attack Cost Your Business?

A Kaspersky Lab survey report has quantified the average cost of DDoS attacks on organizations. The figures are contained in the 'Global IT Security Risks Survey 2014 – distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks' report. The survey found that "DDoS attacks cost small-to-medium-sized businesses (SMBs) an average of \$52,000 per incident. For larger enterprises, the cost of a DDoS attack is an average of \$444,000 in lost business and increased IT spending." The report is available at <https://press.kaspersky.com/files/2014/11/B2B-International-2014-Survey-DDoS-Summary-Report.pdf>.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/news07519.html>

Website Will Help Reunite People with Pets after Disaster

A new website created by computer scientists at the University of Colorado at Boulder hopes to make pet-and-owner reunifications during and after disasters even easier. [EmergencyPetMatcher](#) is a one-stop website for lost and found postings, where people can post photos of lost pets and hopefully match them with photos of pets found. Users of the website can peruse posted photos and look for matches. When a certain number of people suggest a match, an email is generated to the posters of lost and found photos.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Website-Will-Help-Reunite-People-with-Pets-after-Disaster.html>

QuakeSmart for Business

"With earthquakes, it's not a matter of if; it's a matter of when." This video message from the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) illustrates the unpredictability of earthquakes and the impact tremors can have on businesses. Therefore, it is important for business owners to take steps to ensure the safety of their employees and customers. FEMA and FLASH created the QuakeSmart Community Resilience Program

(<http://www.flash.org/quakesmartcommunity/businesses.html>) to walk business owners through a step-by-step process to:

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- Identify their risk by completing the “Back to Business” self-assessment.
- Develop a plan to reduce potential injury and property damage (mitigation).
- Take action using the QuakeSmart Business Toolkit.

In addition, the program allows employers to apply for recognition as a member of the QuakeSmart Community. Benefits of participating in the program include:

- A QuakeSmart Resilient Community Member window cling to announce to customers and employees that you’ve taken steps to secure your business.
- A QuakeSmart Resilient Community Member Web badge to display on your company website.
- A sample news release to announce your participation in the QuakeSmart Community Resilience Program.

The Small Business Association estimates that 75 percent of organizations without a continuity plan will fail within three years of a disaster. Get prepared by joining the QuakeSmart Community Resilience Program today! Employers can also find valuable information in the America’s PrepareAthon! Prepare Your Organization for an Earthquake Playbook, which provides businesses with tools and resources to support preparedness discussions, tabletop exercises, and more.

<http://www.flash.org/quakesmart/pdf/QuakeSmartCommunityResilienceProgram.pdf>

“Prepare Your Organization for an Earthquake Playbook” (PDF) – <http://1.usa.gov/17trsPc>

Wireless Emergency Alerts

If you use your phone as much as we do, it’s probably buzzing, beeping, and vibrating all day long. E-mails, social media, text messages, and app notifications blend together and can all look the same. But what if one of those text messages, e-mails, or social media posts is about an emergency? Wouldn’t it be nice for those emergency updates to “rise to the top” and make you pay attention? That’s a big reason why Wireless Emergency Alerts have a distinct vibration and alert tone – the alerts are designed to make you pay attention because there’s a potential emergency in your area. If you have a newer smartphone, you have probably seen an alert like the one shown here. And you’ve probably heard the alert tone; it’s a cross between a siren and an alarm clock. Again, the reason for the special tone and distinctive alert is to get your attention because a local official determined an emergency is happening in your area.

Learn more about Wireless Emergency Alerts at

www.fcc.gov/guides/wireless-emergency-alerts-wea -- find out what makes them possible, whether your phone can receive them, and more.

Reprinted from FEMA's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/FEMA/posts/10152829156074965>



America’s PrepareAthon! in Action

Twice a year, on April 30 and September 30, the America’s PrepareAthon! campaign promotes national days of action, National PrepareAthon! Days, to bring attention to our progress toward creating a more resilient nation. The April 30 National PrepareAthon! Day (<http://1.usa.gov/1tGLdtj>) may still be more than two months away, but communities are kicking off their local campaigns now.

10 Ways to Participate in America’s PrepareAthon!

Now that you’ve learned more about America’s PrepareAthon! it’s your turn to take action. For those who might think disaster preparedness is expensive, time consuming, or hard to do – think again! Here are 10 simple ways for you to participate in America’s PrepareAthon! in 2015:

1. Sign up for local alerts and warnings, download apps, and/or check access for wireless emergency alerts;
2. Develop and test emergency communications plans;
3. Assemble or update emergency supplies;
4. Learn about local hazards and conduct a drill to practice emergency response actions;
5. Participate in a preparedness discussion, training, or class;

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6. Collect and safeguard critical documents;
7. Document property and obtain appropriate insurance for relevant hazards;
8. Make property improvements to reduce potential injury and property damage (mitigation);
9. Hold a scenario-based continuity of operations tabletop exercise for your organization; or
10. Plan with neighbors to help each other and share resources.

Remember to register your activities on the America's PrepareAthon! website

(www.community.fema.gov/connect.ti/AmericasPrepareathon), which now features a more streamlined look and registration process. Join the movement and be counted among the two million preparedness actions already taken by families, businesses, and organizations across the country leading up to National PrepareAthon! Day on April 30.

Reprinted from FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief, Feb. 19 issue

Home Fire Sprinklers Save Lives

Home fire sprinklers not only save lives, but also decrease the risk for firefighters when installed. Sprinklers reduce the intensity of the fire by dousing the flame before it can grow and spread. Modern home sprinklers are more sensitive to heat than commercial sprinklers. Homeowners may think all sprinklers look like industrial sprinklers in stores; but home fire sprinklers are smaller and less conspicuous than commercial or industrial types. They are also available in colors that match décor and styles that are flush with the ceiling. Sprinklers can prevent devastating home damage by extinguishing flames quickly and limiting the damage caused by smoke and fire. They are also less damaging than water damage caused by firefighting hose lines. Installing a home sprinkler system to a home that is under construction or being remodeled does not require a lot of extra piping and labor, but it increases the safety of residents. A sprinkler costs about \$1.35 per square foot. This cost is about the same as upgraded cabinets or carpet. More information is available at www.usfa.fema.gov.

National Terrorism Advisory System

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) is a robust terrorism advisory system that provides timely information to the public about credible terrorist threats and replaces the former color-coded alert system. Under NTAS, DHS will coordinate with other federal entities to issue detailed alerts to the public when the federal government receives information about a credible terrorist threat. NTAS alerts provide a concise summary of the potential threat including geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, actions being taken to ensure public safety, as well as recommended steps that individuals, communities, business and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate or respond to a threat. NTAS Alerts will include a clear statement on the nature of the threat, which will be defined in one of two ways:

- "Elevated Threat": Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.
- "Imminent Threat": Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.

Depending on the nature of the threat, alerts may be sent to law enforcement, distributed to affected areas of the private sector, or issued more broadly to the public through both official and social media channels – including a designated DHS webpage (www.dhs.gov/alerts), Facebook and via Twitter @NTASAlerts. NTAS alerts and posters will also be displayed in places such as transit hubs, airports and government buildings. NTAS threat alerts will be issued for a specific time period and will automatically expire. Alerts may be extended if new information becomes available or as a specific threat evolves. For more information on the National Terrorism Advisory System or to receive NTAS alerts, visit www.dhs.gov/alerts.

Emergency Alerts (Fairfax Alerts) – In the Know, On the Go

Get emergency alerts by email, as well as by text or pager. Sign up at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts.

You Choose the Type of Alerts

- Pick the types of weather alerts you wish to receive, along with traffic and public safety alerts.
- Create a "do not disturb" timeframe when you don't want to receive weather alerts.
- Learn about county government non-emergency notices such as taxes and elections.



Alerts for Many Different Devices

- Choose up to 10 delivery methods like home phone, cell phone, email, text messaging and more.
- Manage your Fairfax Alerts profile from your phone by downloading the iPhone or Android app.
- Mobile app allows for two-way conversations with emergency managers and does not use text messaging service.

Alerts for Your Locations

- Customize your Fairfax Alerts with up to five addresses, i.e., school, work and home.
- Get geo-targeted weather alerts based on the addresses you define.
- Weather advisories for you, your family, home, business, school, child care and more.

If we can't reach you, we can't alert you. Sign up for free emergency alerts today at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts.

MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Transit System Crime Dropped in 2014

A new report shows serious crime in the Metro system was down last year after significant reductions in thefts of smartphones and bicycles. There was a 22 percent reduction in bicycle thefts and a 35 percent decrease in the number of robberies. Theft account for about 70 percent of major crimes in the Metro system.

<http://www.wjla.com/articles/2015/01/metro-says-transit-system-crime-dropped-27-percent-in-2014-111081.html>



Brokerage Firms Most Worried About Hackers and Rogue Employees, Finra Report Says

The cyberattack on Sony Pictures Entertainment last fall that federal authorities linked to the North Korean government raised alarm bells about the hacking threat posed by foreign governments. But brokerage firms based in the United States remain most concerned about an attack carried out by a loose band of hackers or employees with a grudge. A report released earlier this month by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, the industry's self-regulatory organization, said a survey of about 20 brokerage firms found the threat of an online attack by nation or a terrorist group ranked near the bottom of the industry's concerns.

<http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2015/02/03/brokerage-firms-most-worried-about-hackers-and-rogue-employees-finra-report-says/>

CNN Investigation Finds Security Gap at Airports

The vast majority of airport employees with direct access to the tarmac and airplanes do not go through any daily security screening, and only two of the country's major airports have systems in place that require all employees with secure access to pass through metal detectors, a CNN investigation has found. CNN was given exclusive access to one of those, Miami International Airport, and on a recent afternoon, employees lined up at a checkpoint where they passed through a metal detector as they reported to work. They gathered their belongings, swiped their badges and opened a door that leads down to the airport's secure ramp area.

<http://www.wptz.com/national/cnn-investigation-finds-security-gap-at-airports/31060270>

Terrorist Use Of U.S. Social Media Is A National Security Threat

American companies like Twitter, Facebook, Google, Apple, Microsoft, Yahoo and other popular services, including YouTube, WhatsApp, Skype, Tumblr and Instagram, are facilitating global jihad. This was one of the main subjects of a recent meeting between UK Prime Minister David Cameron and President Obama focusing on cybersecurity and counterterrorism. The president stated, "Social media and the Internet is the primary way in which these terrorism

organizations are communicating” and that “we’re still going to have to find ways to make sure that if an Al-Qaeda affiliate is operating in Great Britain or in the United States, that we can try to prevent real tragedy. And I think the companies want to see that as well. They’re patriots... we’re also going to be in dialogue with the companies to try to make that work.”

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2015/01/30/terrorist-use-of-u-s-social-media-is-a-national-security-threat/>

Japan Sees 25 billion Cyberattacks in 2014

More than 25 billion cyberattacks on the Japanese government and other bodies were logged in 2014, an agency said Tuesday, with 40 percent of them traced to China. The National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), which has a network of a quarter of a million sensors, said there were 25.66 billion attempts to compromise systems, according to a report by Kyodo News. The figure includes attacks aimed at testing the vulnerability of software used in servers. The survey was first carried out in 2005, when it recorded just 310 million attempts to breach security. NICT said an increasing number of the attacks it was seeing involve attempts to take over routers, security cameras and other systems connected to the Internet. Of the cyberattacks the agency was able to trace, 40 percent originated in China, while South Korea, Russia and the United States also figured prominently.

<http://www.securityweek.com/japan-sees-25-billion-cyberattacks-2014-govt-agency>

FLU / EBOLA

Preparing for the Next Pandemic: What Will It Be?

The recent Ebola outbreak has spread both disease and worry, though it wasn’t a pandemic. Still, it has raised interest in what the next pandemic might be – and what can be done to either stop it or prepare for it. A pandemic is an infectious disease in human populations that has spread worldwide and affected many people in almost all countries, said Thomas Campbell, professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. “What we’re talking about is the global spread of an infectious disease,” he said. (This is why Ebola doesn’t meet the definition; the cases are concentrated in just a few countries, with a few others having a handful of cases.)

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/health/Preparing-for-Next-Pandemic.html>

Beware Ebola Complacency

The head of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response hailed Liberia’s success in the fight against the deadly Ebola virus, but warned against complacency now that the number of cases has dropped.

<http://www.emsworld.com/news/11847791/africa-ebola-outbreak>

Leaders of Ebola Fight at U.N. Express Worry About Eradication

The top two health officials managing the Ebola epidemic recently cast doubt on a pledge by West African leaders to reduce new cases to zero by mid-April, and expressed concern about a possible rebound of the disease. The officials, Dr. Bruce Aylward of the World Health Organization and Dr. David Nabarro, the United Nations’ special envoy for Ebola, said that the incidence of new cases was no longer plunging, and that the anti-Ebola effort was facing a \$900 million shortfall for 2015. Their remarks, at a United Nations news conference, emphasized a sobering message they had delivered during meetings at the organization's headquarters this week.

Source: The New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/21/world/africa/leaders-of-ebola-fight-at-un-express-worry-about-eradication.html>

Liberia-U.S. clinical Research Partnership Opens Trial to Test Ebola Treatments

In partnership with the Liberian government, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has launched a clinical trial to obtain safety and efficacy data on the investigational drug ZMapp as a treatment for Ebola virus disease. The study, which will be conducted in Liberia and the United States, is a randomized controlled trial enrolling adults and children with known Ebola virus infection.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/feb2015/niaid-27.htm>

Fairfax County Pandemic Flu Preparedness

Be sure to visit the county's flu Web page for information and news on flu and flu preparedness.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu>

TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

3rd Annual Joint Civil & DoD CBRN Symposium

March 16-17; Alexandria, Va.

The 3rd Annual Joint Civil & DoD CBRN Symposium is designed as an educational and training town hall forum, where thought leaders and key policy-makers across military and civilian organizations can come together for actionable discussions and debate, focusing on advancing CBRN response, defense and technology readiness for joint CBRN defense and the changing budget landscape.

<http://jointcbmn.dsigroup.org/>

2015 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium

March 18-20; Hampton Roads, Va.

Join emergency managers, emergency responders, law enforcement officers, public safety officials and hospital and college/university representatives to attend this year's symposium titled "Partnerships: Share the Load." The symposium and exhibition hall are sponsored by Virginia Emergency Management Association and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

<http://www.vemaweb.org/content/symposium/>

2015 Preparedness, Emergency Response and Recovery Consortium and Exposition (PERRC)

March 23-26; Orlando, Fla.

It is the mission of this consortium to bring together healthcare, medical, public health and volunteer emergency management personnel involved in disaster recovery and response efforts representing the governmental, public and private sectors to discuss shared practices in preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. This forum will provide a hands-on, adult learning environment promoting the sharing of ideas and discussion of best practices.

<http://www.perrc.org/>

SPIE Defense + Security 2015

April 20-25; Baltimore, Md.

SPIE Defense + Security has, for more than 20 years, featured conferences and courses on infrared systems, lidar and radar, laser technology, image processing, data analysis, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance systems (ISR), display technologies, unmanned systems and robots, CBRNE, cyber sensing and security, biometric technology, law enforcement, energy harvesting, and more.

<http://spie.org/defense-security.xml>

30th Annual National Security Conference

April 27-29; Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, Va.

https://www.nsi.org/form_ImpactSurvey.html

Richmond Forum on Cybersecurity

May 22; Richmond, Va.

The program will cover issues like what does a cyberthreat look like and how agencies can use the tools and technologies at their disposal while still protecting the rights of citizens.

<https://www.richmondforum.org/bio-alexander-mueller.aspx>

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International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference & Expo 2015

May 29-June 1; Baltimore, Md.

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Hazmat Conference provides the latest classroom, hands-on, and fieldtrip-based training covering all aspects of hazmat - highlighting topics such as transportation, safety, weapons of mass destruction, protective gear and equipment, terrorism, mass decontamination, bioterrorism, and much more.

<http://www.iafc.org/hazmat>

National Capital Region Homeland Security Events

http://www.mwcog.org/committee/committee/events_homeland.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=134

Virginia Emergency Management Courses

<http://www.vaemergency.com>

FEMA Independent Study Courses

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/>

American Red Cross Disaster Services Training

http://www.redcrossnca.org/Online/disaster_registration.php

"EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS" NEWSLETTER

Check It Out!

Published monthly by the Office of Emergency Management

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/outreach/newsletter.htm

LINKS

Fairfax County Web Resources

- Fairfax County Emergency Information Blog - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog
- Fairfax County Emergency Information Web page - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/
- Fairfax County CERT - <http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/>
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Web Page - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Blog - <http://citizencorps.blogspot.com/>

Additional Web Resources

- Capital Region Updates - www.CapitalRegionUpdates.gov
- Virginia Citizen Corps - www.vaemergency.com/citcorps/index.cfm

DHS Science & Technology Directorate Newsletter

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science & Technology Directorate has a free newsletter, "S&T Snapshots," featuring stories about current research projects and opportunities with laboratories, universities, government agencies, and the private sector. The newsletter is produced monthly by the DHS Science and Technology Directorate in partnership with the Homeland Security Institute, a Studies and Analysis Federally Funded Research and Development Center.

<http://www.homelandsecurity.org/snapshots/>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report (OSIR)

The Department of Homeland Security provides a Web-based "Daily OSIR," which is posted on the DHS public

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Web site. Accessing the report via the Web enables readers to retrieve the current Daily Report as well as 10 days of archived DHS Daily Reports. Once you arrive at the Web page you will find the most recent Daily OSIR at the top of the page, under the title "Current Report." This report is posted each morning, except for weekends and holidays. Simply click on the title "DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report." This will launch the current days report in PDF format. You can submit content comments or make suggestions by contacting the DHS Daily Report Team by telephone at 202-312-3421 or by e-mail at NICCRports@dhs.gov. You can access the Daily OSIR at: http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/editorial_0542.shtm.

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/infoline.htm

Emergency Management Magazine

<http://www.govtech.com/em/toc.php>

FEMA Private Sector

<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/>

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Emergency Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency

To Unsubscribe:

E-mail publicaffairs@fairfaxcounty.gov with "Remove from ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update" in the subject line and you will be immediately removed from the distribution list.

In accordance with NIMS – the National Incident Management System – the Fairfax County Emergency Operations Plan states that Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) is led by the Office of Public Affairs. This ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update is part of the county's outreach efforts for our business and nonprofit partners as a way to provide information about the county's ESF 15, Homeland Security and emergency management.

Please forward this ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update to other contacts you have inside or outside your organization. Should someone you know like to be added to our distribution list, have them send an e-mail to jim.person@fairfaxcounty.gov and ask to be subscribed to the ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve this update or other communications between Fairfax County and the business/nonprofit community, contact Tony Castrilli, Director of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs, at 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or by e-mail at anthony.castrilli@fairfaxcounty.gov.



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